

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2521

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 7642

CINPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, VN

SUBJ: JAPAN-DRV RELATIONS; DRV PARLIAMENTARIANS VISIT; PRG
ISSUE

REF: A. TOKYO 4103

B. TOKYO 6199

C. TOKYO 6645

D. STATE 113828

E. TOKYO 14695

SUMMARY: DRV PARLIAMENTARY GROUP COMPLETED VISIT TO JAPAN
WHICH INCLUDED CALL ON FONMIN AND RESULTED IN CALL BY ALL-
POLITICAL PARTY GROUP OF HOSTS FOR DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION
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OF PRG. HANOI SEEMS TO BE MOVING TOWARD COMPROMISE WITH JAPAN

ON PRG AND ASSISTANCE ISSUES BUT HANOI'S NEGOTIATOR IN VIEN-
TIANE TALKS, NEVERTHELESS, CITED FRANCE'S ALLOWING PRG TO
OPEN PERMANENT MISSION AS RELEVANT EXAMPLE FOR JAPAN TO
FOLLOW. END SUMMARY.

1. DRV NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATION LED BY MINISTER TAN
DANH TUYEN CALLED ON FONMIN OHIRA AND OTHER SENIOR GOJ AND
PARLIAMENTARY OFFICIALS DURING WELL PUBLICIZED MAY 20-27
VISIT TO JAPAN. VISIT WAS AT INVITATION OF SUPRA-PARTISAN
GROUP OF PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM ALL FIVE JAPANESE POLITICAL
PARTIES, INCLUDING THREE LDP DIETMEN (REFS B AND C). DELEGATION
ALSO WAS ENTERTAINED OR MET WIDE RANGE OF JOURNALISTS, BUS-
INESS, AND POLITICAL GROUPS.

2. FONOFF FIRST SE ASIAN DIV DIRECTOR HANABUSA TOLD EMBASSY
THAT FONOFF REGARDS VISIT AS SUCCESSFUL IN BROADENING CON-
TACTS WITHIN JAPAN OF DRV OFFICIALS, A PROCESS WHICH FONOFF
HOPES WILL EVENTUALLY CONTRIBUTE TO MODERATING DRV POLICIES.
IN CALL ON FONMIN (WHICH HANABUSA ATTENDED), ONLY OHIRA
BROUGHT UP MATTER OF SUBSTANCE BY COMMENTING THAT EMBASSIES
SHOULD BE SET UP IN TOKYO AND HANOI TO FULFILL AGREEMENT
IN COMMUNIQUE ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. IN RESPONSE,
TUYEN NOTED LAMELY THAT EMBASSIES WERE MATTER FOR TWO
GOVTS TO RESOLVE. REMAINING CONVERSATION CONSISTED OF SOCIAL
CHIT-CHAT.

3. RESULTS OF VISIT INCLUDED COMMUNIQUE ISSUED IN WHICH
JAPANESE PARLIAMENTARIANS QTE REAFFIRMED PRINCIPLES UNQTE
OF WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST IN REHABILITATION OF DRV, SUPPORT
FOR PARIS AGREEMENT, AND COMMITMENT TO PROMOTE DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS WITH PRGSV. HANABUSA NOTED TO US THIS WAS FIRST TIME
LDP DIETMEN HAD ADVOCATED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRG. HE
SAID QTE THEY WOULD BE TALKED TO UNQTE, BUT EXPRESSED CONCERN
THAT THIS MIGHT FOREBODE RENEWED DIFFICULTIES WITH DIET
WHICH HAS BEEN GENERALLY PACIFIED ON VN ISSUES SINCE JAPAN'S
ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH DRV.

4. VISIT ALSO OCCASIONED FOUNDING OF JAPAN-DRV PARLIAMENTARIANS
FRIENDSHIP ALLIANCE WITH CORE MEMBERSHIP OF THIRTEEN DIETMEN
WHO CONSTITUTED WELCOMING COMMITTEE DRAWN FROM ALL FIVE
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POLITICAL PARTIES. HANABUSA TOLD US THAT ALL DIETMEN OF FOUR
OPPOSITION PARTIES WOULD ALSO QTE AUTOMATICALLY UNQTE BE
CONSIDERED MEMBERS OF NEW ALLIANCE, BUT LDP DIETMEN WOULD
PRESUMABLY PARTICIPATE AS INDIVIDUALS SINCE ALLIANCE HOLDS
PRINCIPLES (I.E. RECOGNITION OF PRG) CONTRARY TO DP POLICIES.

5. ON RELATED QUESTION, HANABUSA SAID THAT IN LATEST DRV-
JAPAN MEETING IN VIENTIANE MAY 27, JAPANESE RECEIVED EVEN

STRONGER IMPRESSION THAN IN PREVIOUS MEETING (REF C) THAT HANOI WAS PREPARING TO COMPROMISE ON PRG AND ASSISTANCE ISSUES, LARGELY BECAUSE OF DIRE NEED FOR FUNDS FOR RECONSTRUCTION (AS EXPLAINED REF C). IN LATEST MEETING, DRV REP, CHARGE BUU CHIN (PHONETIC), POINTED OUT THAT QTE FRANCE HAD RECOGNIZED PRG, WHICH SHOULD MAKE IT EASIER AND REASONABLE FOR GOJ TO DO SO. UNQTE. GOJ REP REJECTED THIS SUGGESTION. (EMBOFF EXPLAINED TO HANABUSA OUR UNDERSTANDING OF FRANCE'S POSITION AS IN REF D.) ACKNOWLEDGING THAT FRANCE RECOGNIZES QTE STATES UNQTE NOT QTE GOVTS UNQTE, HANABUSA EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM OF FRANCE'S EXPLANATIONS, REMARKING THAT FULL TITLE OF PRG MISSION WORDING "DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU SUD VIETNAM" COULD PERMIT A VERY BROAD INTERPRETATION OF PRG'S GOVERNMENTAL MANDATE IN SVN. HE STATED FLATLY THAT HE HAD IMPRESSION THAT FRANCE WAS NOT RPT NOT OPPOSED TO CREATION OF THIRD VIETNAM STATE.)

6. COMMENT: ATMOSPHERE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS' VISIT WAS CONSIDERABLY WARMER ON BOTH DRV AND JAPANESE SIDES THAT DURING PREVIOUS QUASI-OFFICIAL DRV VISIT TO JAPN BY HOANG QUOC VIET IN NOVEMBER 73. AS REPORTED REF E, VIET VISIT ON EARLIER OCCASION WAS STIFF, ACCUSATORY AND CONTROVERSIAL. AS HANABUSA SUGGESTED, FORMATION OF ALLIANCE WITH POSSIBLY LARGE MEMBERSHIP MAY SPELL TROUBLE FOR GOJ IN DIET INTERPELLATIONS, WHICH COULD IN TURN PRESSURE GOJ INTO SOFTENING ITS POSITION ON PRG FASTER THAN IT MAY NOW INTEND.
SHOESMITH

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